

SUMMARY OF MEETING

Improving Adolescent Vaccination Rates

May 24, 2018

Alabama Department of Public Health

The RSA Tower, Suite 1586

Montgomery, Alabama

Participants were:

Angela Davis, Alabama Cancer Society

Linda Lee, Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

LaBrenda Marshall, Alabama State Board of Education

Jennifer Ventress, Alabama State Board of Education

Tara Freeman, Alabama Department of Public Health

Justin George, Alabama Department of Public Health

Gavin Graf, Alabama Department of Public Health

Scott Harris, M.D, Alabama Department of Public Health

Tommy Johnson, D.M.D., Alabama Department of Public Health

Michele Jones, Alabama Department of Public Health

Cindy Lesinger, Alabama Department of Public Health

Beth Loska, Alabama Department of Public Health

Katherine Norris, Alabama Department of Public Health

Denise Strickland, Alabama Department of Public Health

Burnestine Taylor, M.D., Alabama Department of Public Health

Takenya Taylor, Alabama Department of Public Health

Grace Thomas, M.D., Alabama Department of Public Health

Nancy Wright, Alabama Department of Public Health

Calvin Binion, Alabama Medicaid Agency

Kelli Littlejohn Newman, Alabama Medicaid Agency

Drew Nelson, Alabama Medicaid Agency

Melinda Rowe, M.D., Alabama Medicaid Agency

Louise Jones, Alabama Pharmacy Association

Daniel McConaghy, Alabama Pharmacy Association

Katrina Skinner, M.D., Alabama Vaccine Advisory Committee

David Kimberlin, M.D., Alabama Vaccine Advisory Committee/University of Alabama at Birmingham

Margaret Bridges, Blue Cross Blue Shield

Casey Daniel, Mitchell Cancer Institute

Jennifer Young Pierce, M.D., Mitchell Cancer Institute

Coty Hulgan, D.M.D., Periodontist

Eric Ford, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Andrzej Kulczycki, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Allison McGuire, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Natalie Fox, University of South Alabama

Listed below is a summary of the questions and topics discussed.

When will Pharmacists be Allowed to Become VFC Providers?

- Kelli Littlejohn Newman, Alabama Medicaid Agency, indicated that her agency will allow pharmacists to be Vaccine for Children (VFC) providers and coding changes will be put in place for pharmacists to be eligible. The Alabama Medicaid Agency is waiting for age range and final Public Health approval. The age range should be 9-26 years of age, since the American Academy of Pediatrics Red Book has listed those ages. Edits and audits are currently in progress.
- Pharmacists will be reimbursed \$8 per dose, as are county health departments.
- A pharmacist is not a replacement for a primary care physician.
- There was discussion regarding:
 - Which pharmacies should be allowed to be VFC providers?
 - Should the pharmacies be in rural areas with poor VFC coverage?
 - Should all vaccines be delivered or only vaccines for school aged children?
 - Should pharmacists vaccinate only adolescents?
- Linda Lee, Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), stated that pharmacists are already involved in some capacity.
- Cindy Lesinger, Public Health, stated that all pharmacists will not be enrolled. An evaluation process needs to be created along with parameters for eligible pharmacies.
- ImmPRINT has no limits for pharmacies. Preventive care visits are extremely important, as is making it as easy as possible to get vaccinated.
- Jennifer Ventress, Alabama State Department of Education, stated that vaccines cannot only be offered to adolescents, they need to be offered to all, and parents need to be educated to go through their primary care physician. Pediatricians are doing a very good job regarding vaccinations of younger children, but could improve with adolescents.
- AAP is working on a one-page flyer for pharmacies and schools regarding adolescent visits. Pediatricians need to make the process easier for parents to receive adolescent information and for adolescents to receive vaccines. #staywell education – AAP was referenced.
- ImmPRINT legislation for all ages will be discussed at Public Health.
 - Legislation would require ImmPRINT usage for all vaccinations and vaccinators.
 - ImmPRINT should be the tool to get information to providers and to provide training to providers.
 - Regardless of the volume, providers need to enter vaccine information in ImmPRINT.

What is the Significance of HPV in the Development of an Extremely Sharp Increase in Oral Cancers? Are there Opportunities for Dental Advocacy?

- What are county HPV-associated hotspots?
 - All counties in Alabama.
 - A review is needed of cancer rates by county. Are the underserved linked to higher rates of cancer?

- Oral and maxillofacial surgeons should be involved in a search for oropharyngeal cancer survivors.
- Dr. Stuart Lockwood, Alabama Dental Association, will assist in developing steps to advocate to dentists on how to effectively address the link between oral cancers and HPV, as well as help to bring more awareness to the dental community about the issue. Dr. David Hicks, Jefferson County Department of Health, is very interested in working at the state level to address this issue as well.
- Dental schools teach about vaccinations and can add to the training that is currently in place.
 - An increased number of cancers in the oropharynx are HPV-associated.
 - Rates have doubled nationally in last 10 years, per Dr. Lockwood.
- Younger dentists are interested in becoming involved.
 - The American Dental Association is working on HPV as well.
 - Dentists could be grouped with nurse practitioners and other mid-level providers in regards to education.

Moving Forward Around School Health

- Any provider who conducts a school-based clinic must ensure they provide all Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices vaccine information to parents. It is recommended that HPV information be placed in the middle of the recommendation to parents and include Meningococcal, HPV, and Tdap. AAP would like a universal approach in engaging schools in providing information to parents concerning vaccinations.
- Dr. Young Pierce, University of South Alabama, suggested possible meetings with various partners to ensure that consistent information is developed and distributed. This could include combining meetings and state conferences to develop the information.
- Alabama has approximately ten private providers currently providing school-based vaccination clinics and they have already created their material for consent and education. One of the providers, HNH, will be happy to include AAP's flyer regarding medical homes (referenced above).
- Website education/an HPV flyer could be produced by AAP for offices to utilize in order to educate parents more effectively, and include their office staff in assisting with education.
- Mr. Eric Ford, University of Alabama at Birmingham, discussed a project on which they are working which would make vaccines available at sports physicals and could include 1,100 students although there are cost and sustainability concerns. This project could serve as another layer toward HPV vaccination education. It was noted that pediatric groups also perform sports physicals.
- There was a question regarding ImmPRINT usage during sports physicals. All school-based clinics using VFC must use ImmPRINT to determine eligibility and enter the doses given.
- AAP, the Department of Education, and Public Health need to work together on any resolutions/legislation regarding school-based immunizations.

Possible Statewide Meeting in 2019

- Dr. Young Pierce will lead.
 - Discuss plans on how to implement immunization and changes with school organizations.
 - Financial sponsorship will be needed.
- There is a great representation of stakeholders at this meeting. There is a need for peer training and for people to speak at different meetings.

Payer Quality Metrics/Opportunities

- Alabama Medicaid Agency
 - PCP-CMS (Patient Centered Medical Home) core child measure structure pay based on three different points
 - Quality/cost/efficiency
 - One of six measures for patient care
 - Draft set of metrics
- Blue Cross Blue Shield
 - Value-based
 - HPV vaccine currently on display on dashboard
 - Tools to see how well providers are doing from their patient list
 - Quality bucket – pay-out for HPV
- Both payers are aligning performance metrics, effective January 1, 2019.

Use and Dissemination of New Alabama Cancer Society/HPV Roundtable Provider Guides

- HPV roundtable guides
- Take the message to all associations, module for all disciplines
- Peer training and resources
- Pharmacist and OB/GYN guides and CEU programs will need to be created next for provider guides
- Guides currently exist for medical assistant, registered nurses, administration, and dental

Evidence Based Interventions Provider Reports

- Public Health's new ImmPRINT Vaccine Coverage Rate Report is now available, is a valuable source to educate providers, and should be made available to all staff in provider offices.
- AAP and the Alabama Academy of Family Physicians will publish an ad, an article, the listserv, and e-news.

Data Gaps that Contribute to Lower Vaccination Rates

- Information could be determined later once overall vaccination rates have improved.

Mitigating Parent Concerns about Adverse Reactions to HPV Vaccine

- Review and utilize information found in the HPV roundtable guides.
- Become more comfortable talking with patients and parents.

Follow up on Barriers Previously Discussed

- ImmPRINT Vaccine Coverage Rate Report
- State by State, Provider vs. Provider, Vaccine by Vaccine
- Letters (where do you stack up?)

Increasing Adolescent and, in Particular, Male Vaccination Rates

- Educate regarding the increase in male HPV cancers in Alabama and nationwide.

ADPH Projects

- Facebook
 - Link with site if have not already done so
 - Professional organizations link to site as well
 - AAP
 - Alabama Academy of Family Physicians
 - University of Alabama at Birmingham
 - University of South Alabama
 - Private Providers
 - Alabama Pharmacy Association
 - Alabama Dental Association
- Educational outreach campaigns, etc.

Topics for Small Group or Special Meeting Focus

- Legislation
- Resolution
- 2019 statewide meeting
- Dentistry
- HPV roundtable guides
- Social media